

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of California-American Water Company (U 210 W) for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Construct and Operate its Coastal Water Project to Resolve the Long-Term Water Supply Deficit in its Monterey District and to Recover All Present and Future Costs in Connection Therewith in Rates

Application 04-09-019
(Filed September 20, 2004)

**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S RULING
DIRECTING CALIFORNIA-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY
TO SUSPEND EFFORTS TO COMPLY WITH RULE 24**

Background

On September 20, 2004, California-American Water Company (Cal-Am) filed this application which, among other things, seeks to increase rates to fund a proposed Coastal Water Project. Because of the impact on rates, Rule 24 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure apply. Rule 24 requires that Cal-Am provide notice of its proposed rate increase in certain specified ways, including by publishing notice in a newspaper of general circulation and through customer bill inserts.

Can-Am's application does not include a Proponent's Environmental Assessment, a necessary precursor to evaluating the merits of the proposed rate increase, nor does it specify the exact project for which Cal-Am is seeking a certificate of public convenience and necessity. Given these deficiencies, we are evaluating the most effective procedural approach to handling this application,

and I believe that providing notice to local citizens of this request may be premature. Therefore, I direct Cal-Am to suspend its efforts to comply with Rule 24 until further advised by myself, the assigned Commissioner, or assigned Administrative Law Judge.

Therefore, **IT IS RULED** that California-American Water Company shall suspend its efforts to comply with Rule 24 until further advised by myself, the assigned Commissioner, or assigned Administrative Law Judge.

Dated September 28, 2004, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ ANGELA K. MINKIN by SK

Angela K. Minkin

Chief Administrative Law Judge

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I have by mail, and by electronic mail to the parties who have provided an electronic mail address, this day served a true copy of the original attached Administrative Law Judge's Ruling Directing California-American Water Company to Suspend Efforts to Comply with Rule 24 on all parties of record in this proceeding or their attorneys of record.

Dated September 28, 2004, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ ELIZABETH LEWIS
Elizabeth Lewis

N O T I C E

Parties should notify the Process Office, Public Utilities Commission, 505 Van Ness Avenue, Room 2000, San Francisco, CA 94102, of any change of address to insure that they continue to receive documents. You must indicate the proceeding number on the service list on which your name appears.

The Commission's policy is to schedule hearings (meetings, workshops, etc.) in locations that are accessible to people with disabilities. To verify that a particular location is accessible, call: Calendar Clerk (415) 703-1203.

If specialized accommodations for the disabled are needed, e.g., sign language interpreters, those making the arrangements must call the Public Advisor at (415) 703-2074, TTY 1-866-836-7825 or (415) 703-5282 at least three working days in advance of the event.